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Bluck Wins Exemplary Research Award



Dr. Susan Bluck (Director, Life Story Lab) is the recipient of the Robert Butler and Myrna Lewis Exemplary Research Award from the International Institute for Reminiscence and Life Review. Dr. Butler was a physician, Pulitzer-winning author and first director of the National Institute on Aging. Dr. Lewis was a leader in gerontology at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Butler and Lewis's early clinical and theoretical work denounces ageism, suggesting that older individuals have rich life stories that can be used to understand the aging process and inform clinical practice. This award recognizes scholars who have carried on this tradition, making major contributions to the field by extending concepts and theories concerning personal memory.

Dr. Bluck's nomination and selection was based on her scholarly contribution to understanding the functions of remembering the personal past across the lifespan. Her nomination letter describes her as a "bridge-builder" whose "record of research is truly impressive in terms of both its scope and its influence on other scholars in the field" She is described as "a model researcher because of the exceptionally high quality of her scholarship and its purposeful relevance to...addressing both theoretical and practical questions."

Dr. Bluck has been dedicated to personal memory research across her career, from some of her earliest published work, *Reminiscence as Autobiographical Memory: A Catalyst for Reminiscence Theory Development* (1998) to her most current, *Remembering the Historical Roots of Remembering the Personal Past* (in press). The Life Story Lab consists of a multidisciplinary research team interested in adult development, aging, and autobiographical memory. The Lab welcomes people of all ages to get involved in ongoing research. If interested, please contact the lab at (352) 273-3813.